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III. *Situs novi Cometæ mense Februario, Anni 1699. in Regio Observatorio Parisiensi Observati.*

NOcte sequente diem 19 *Februarii*, anni hujus 1699. in Observatorio Regio Parisiensi inter hiatus nubium quæ à diebus aliquot Cælum obduxerant, videri cæpit exiguus Cometa instar stellæ nebulosæ tertiæ magnitudinis, illi per similes quæ mense Septembri 1698. fuit observatus.

Situs erat inter stellas informes Sextæ magnitudinis propè circulum polarem arcticum supra caput Aurigæ, æquali ferè intervallo inter cubitum occidentalem Persei & caput majoris ursæ, illas adscribit Tycho informibus circa ursam minorem Continuatis observationibus per intervalla temporis quibus eadem nocte & sequenti nubium motus eam cæli regionem aperiebat, visus est proprio motu iter suum dirigere Capellam versus, cum exigua deviatione ab ejus circulo declinationis adeo ut si diebus præcedentibus cæli serenitas affulsisset videri potuisset polo arctico proxima. Ea erat ejus velocitas ut unius diei spatio septem circiter gradus magni circuli perficeret, quo motu potuit ante dies 4 ipsi polo fermè adhærere & stellæ polari sociari, seseque nautis qui stellam hanc ad itineris directionem frequenter observant, videntem exhibere.

Ejus transitum per hujus urbis verticem, & deinde ejus conjunctionem cum Capella post biduum observandam expectabamus; sed optatissimum spectaculum & observationibus ad Cometæ distantiam a terra inquirendam, instituendis maxime opportunum, nubes quæ totas no-

ctes sequentes cælum obsedere nobis invigilantibus inviderunt. Quærendus post hac erit Cometa hic in via quæ per stellas aurigæ, quæ inter Taurum & Geminos, per Orionem, Leporem & Columbam aut circa perducitur, quam viam primæ observationes quæ haberi poterunt comparatæ cum nostris prioribus quarum meminimus, exactius determinabunt. Nec enim licet ex unius tantum diei intervallo quod hætenus minus commodè observari potuit longiorem tractum exactius definire.

Habitarum hætenus observationum quæ Cometæ locum accuratius determinat ea est quam habuimus hora Sexta post mediam noctem sequentem diem 19 Februarii. Comparavimus Cometam cum stella sextæ magnitudinis quam Tycho appellat secundam earum quæ sunt in linea recta cum polo, quas quatuor recenset quæ tamen non sunt invicem in lineâ rectâ quamvis proximè inter se differant intervallo latitudinum quas illi assignat. Cometa igitur in transitu per circulum horarium præcedebat hanc stellam minutis horariis 15' 53'', quibus debetur differentia ascensionis rectæ grad. 4. 43' erat autem Septentrionalior eadem stellâ minutis 8. Unde supposita hujus stellæ longitudine ex latitudine Tychonica ad hoc tempus, Cometa refertur ad gr. 15. 51'. Geminorum cum latitudine Septentrionali gr. 37. 25'.

Movetur Cometa hic ad cæli partes oppositas illis ad quas tendebat Cometa anni præteriti cum esset fermè in eadem distantia a polo in quâ noster hic cum primum visus est, nec valde ab eodem loco remotus.

Cometa autem mensis Septembris eandem prosequutus est viam quam inter sidera tenuerat Cometa anni 1652. a nobis Bononiæ observatus, cujus occasione editis literis ad serenissimum Franciscum Estensem Mutinæ ducem, eam viam per eadem sidera quæ noster tenuit anno 1698. distinctè

distincte descripsimus. Ille mense Decembri ab Austraribus cæli partibus per astra Leporis, Orionis & Tauri ubi Eclipticam secuit cum inclinatione graduum 76, & per Perseum ad Cassiopeam pervenit, ubi videri desit mense Januario, anni 1653. Hic videri cæpit initio Mensis Septembris in eadem Cassiopeæ parte ubi ille videri desierat, indeque pergens per humeros & brachia Cephei, ubi latitudinem maximam ab Ecliptica habuit graduum 76. transit inter Draconem & Cygnum, per pellem Leonis in Hercule, per Ophiucum ulque ad Constellationem scorpii, quam tenebat in ultimis observationibus a die 24 ad 28 Septembris habitis. Ex his autem observationibus collegimus cometam hunc Perigeum obtinuisse die 7 Septembris vespere cum maximâ velocitate apparenti graduum fere decem unius diei spatio.

IV. *Part of a Letter from Dr. Cay to Dr. Lister, concerning the Vertues of the Ostracites; with a Remark of the Doctor's on it.*

I Have been waiting a considerable time for a further and fuller Account of the Virtues of the *Ostracites*, from Dr. *Home* of *Barwick*, from whom I had the first Account of its being so extraordinary a Medicine in the *Nephritis*, but as yet have not got all the Satisfaction that I would have in the matter. However, lest you should think I forget to make a Return to your last obliging Letter, I rather choose to send you the following Account, imperfect as it is, than make you wait any longer for a better.